



News Release

Arizona Department of Public Safety

2102 West Encanto Boulevard – Post Office Box 6638

Phoenix, Arizona 85005-6638

Date: August 6, 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Direct Inquiries to:

Harold A. Sanders

Contact Information:

“pio@azdps.gov”

Arizona Vehicle Theft Task Force Detectives Arrest Suspect Profiled on America’s Most Wanted Television Program

On Wednesday, July 30, 2008, Detectives with the Arizona Vehicle Theft Task Force (VTTF) arrested Terrence Kasses Washington, age 33 (actual DOB 11-23-1974), who was wanted on multiple federal warrants and various felony charges from other states.

On Wednesday morning, VTTF Detectives were conducting an investigation reference a stolen vehicle, a 1977 GMC half-ton pick-up, located at a motel at 8399 West Lynwood, Phoenix, Arizona. Detectives found numerous items in the stolen vehicle and the motel room rented by the suspect that were identified as being property that was stolen from multiple burglaries committed in the West Valley and also in various cities in the states of New Mexico and Texas. The suspect, at the time he was arrested at the motel, was using an alias of Damien Richardson with a DOB of 11-24-1973.

During the weekend after the arrest of the suspect, VTTF Detectives received additional information that the name being used was an alias among many aliases that have been used by the suspect. They were able to determine through information received from the State of Maryland authorities that the correct name for the suspect is Terrence Kasses Washington, DOB 11-24-1973 and he is a wanted fugitive.

The GMC pick-up that the VTTF Detectives had seized outside of the motel was obtained in a rural area of New Mexico around June 6 of this year, according to the New Mexico State Police. The New Mexico authorities pursued the suspect in a different stolen vehicle and unfortunately he was able to elude the state police after a long pursuit.

Terrence Washington has led a crime spree spanning over 10 years involving two armed bank robberies, attempted murder of a police officer, escape from custody from three different state detention facilities and fleeing from law enforcement. This crime spree occurred in Tennessee, Missouri, Ohio, Maryland, Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico and now Arizona. The suspect has been featured at least three times on the television program “America’s Most Wanted.”

Terrence Washington is currently being held at the Maricopa County Fourth Avenue Jail on the following charges: Multiple Federal Warrants, State of Maryland Hold for Felony Crimes, Vehicle Theft, Multiple Counts of Burglaries from Vehicles, and Possession of Stolen Property.

The Detectives are currently trying to locate the victims for the 30 to 40 stolen property items that have been seized.

Sergeant Douglas Hardin, one of the VTTF task force supervisors, will be available for interviews.

The attachment contains one photo of the stolen vehicle located in Arizona. A photo of the suspect can be obtained from the Maricopa County Fourth Avenue Jail Records.

Additional information and a photo on Terrence K. Washington can be found on the "America's Most Wanted" Web site at <http://www.AMW.com> then go to "Fugitives" then go to the alphabetical listing by last name.

The Arizona Vehicle Theft Task Force (VTTF) is comprised of investigators from several state, county and city law enforcement agencies and is administered by the Arizona Department of Public Safety. VTTF units investigate criminal organizations, conspiracies and individuals who commit various forms of vehicle theft, theft of motor vehicle parts, alteration of vehicle identification numbers, fictitious title/registration documentation preparation connected to the movement of stolen vehicles and/or stolen vehicle parts.